In the Claims:

Claims 1-18 are pending.

1. (currently amended) A method of treating a patient requiring long-term therapy following hematopoietic cell transplantation having graft-versus-host disease ~~(GVHD)~~ or following organ allograft transplantation having host-[[y]]versus-graft disease ~~(HVGD)e~~, the method comprising long term topical oral administration of a topically active corticosteroid wherein treatment is directed to tissue selected from the group consisting of intestine and liver.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the topically active corticosteroid is administered orally at a dosage of 4 mg per day to 12 mg per day.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient has tissue damage and the tissue is intestinal mucosa.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient has tissue damage and the tissue is small bile ducts in the liver.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient has tissue damage and the tissue damage is inflammation.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient has tissue damage and the tissue damage is destruction of the mucosa of the intestine.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the topically active corticosteroid is administered orally from day 29 to day 56 following hematopoietic cell transplantation.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the topically active corticosteroid is administered in combination with prednisone and prednisolone at 2 mg/kg.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the topically active corticosteroid is formulated for oral administration in the form of a pill, capsule or microsphere.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the of topically active corticosteroid is formulated such that the pill, microsphere, or capsule dissolves in the stomach, small intestine or colon.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the topically active corticosteroid is formulated for oral administration in the form of an emulsion.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein administration of the topically active corticosteroid initiates following infusion of the hematopoietic cells.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein administration of the topically active corticosterois ceases after 80 days following infusion of the hematopoietic cells.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient is the recipient of HLA-mismatched hematopoietic stem cells.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient is the recipient of unrelated donor hematopoietic stem cells, umbilical vein hematopoietic stem cells, or peripheral blood stem cells.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the topically active corticosteroid is administered in combination with other prophylactic agents.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the topically active corticosteroid is beclomethasone dipropionate.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the topically active corticosteroid is alclometasone dipropionate, busedonide, 22S busesonide, 22R budesonide, beclomethasone-17-monopropionate, clobetasol propionate, diflorasone diacetate, flunisolide, flurandrenolide, fluticasone propionate, halobetasol propionate, halcinocide, mometasone furoate, or triamcinalone acetonide.